

REMARKS

Replacement drawings, now formalized, are attached.

Applicant has amended this application as shown above. In particular, applicant has added the control step that on certain occasions, one of the tandem compressors will be driven while the other not driven. The shutoff valve associated with the not-driven compressor will be closed. Nothing within the Shaw reference discloses any time when its valves 66 will be utilized. In fact, the Shaw reference would appear to require constant operation of both compressors, or neither. The main thrust of the Shaw patent is to have an oil equalization system. To achieve this goal, it would appear that both compressors would have to operate simultaneously. If one of the compressors had a higher oil level to be distributed, and that compressor is shut down, there would be no way to redistribute the oil among the running compressors. The shutdown compressor's casing would be at suction pressure, and the check valves on the line connected to this compressor would be shut.

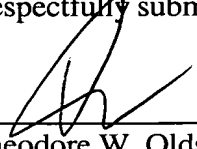
Moreover, and in particular as relates to the amendments to the claims, nothing within this reference indicates a control that would selectively actuate one but not the other of the compressors.

Further, the functional position of the valve as set forth in claim 4 is not shown by the Shaw patent. Moreover, the method limitations of claims 10 and 11 are not shown by the Shaw patent. Also, the functional feature of claim 15 is not shown by the Shaw patent.

In sum, all claims are allowable. An indication of such is solicited.

Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

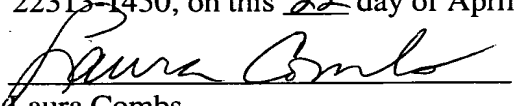


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CERTIFICATE OF MAIL

I hereby certify that the enclosed Response is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 22 day of April, 2005.



Laura Combs